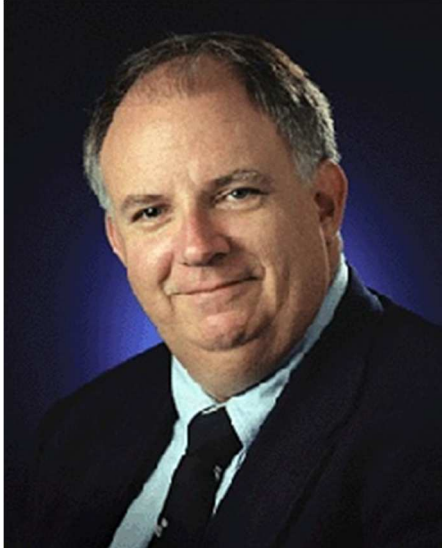


Biography of NASA's Chief Health and Medical Officer



Dr. Richard Williams serves as NASA's Chief Health and Medical Officer and is responsible for the oversight of all health and medical activities at NASA, including medical aspects of all national and international NASA missions involving humans. He holds an M.D. degree from the Virginia Commonwealth University (Medical College of Virginia), and completed residencies in General Surgery at Wright State University and in Aerospace Medicine and Occupational Medicine at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks AFB, Texas. A Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, he is certified by both the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Preventive Medicine (Aerospace Medicine). He has extensive experience in the clinical practice of general surgery, aerospace medicine and occupational medicine as well as in administrative medical management. He has held appointments as Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at Wright State University and Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Virginia.

During his 27 year Air Force career, Dr. Williams served in a wide variety of settings as a clinical practitioner and medical leader, including service in contingency deployments. His military decorations and civilian honors include the Bronze Star Medal, the John R. Tamisea Award, the NASA Space Flight Safety Award, and the Melbourne C. Boynton Award. Dr. Williams is also a designated senior FAA Aviation Medical Examiner and an active instrument-rated private pilot with over 3500 hours flying single and multi-engine aircraft.